

REMARKS

This paper is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 31, 2009, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 31, 2009. Applicant respectfully requests entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

Claims 1, 5, 7-9, and 13 are currently pending in the Application.

Claims 1, 7, 8 and 9 are currently amended with this response.

Claims 2-4, 6, 10-12, and 14 were previously cancelled.

Claim 1, 5, 7-9, and 13 were previously amended.

I. Objections to the Specification

The specification has been objected to for the character references 22 and 24 referring to both “prongs” and “hooks.” It is further suggested that corrections to the drawings may be required in order to resolve the issue.

In response, Applicant amended Paragraphs 13, 14, and 18 of the Specification in order correct an inadvertent typographical error. As amended, Paragraphs 13, 14, and 18 now indicate character references “12” and “15” are hooks, while character references “22” and “24” are prongs, where a single hook can have multiple prongs. Applicant believes no new matter was added by this amendment.

Figure 3 has also been amended to replace the character reference "24" with "15." Support for this amendment can be found in Applicant's original Figures 1 and 2. Applicant believes no new matter has been added by this amendment.

II. Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

In particular, claims 1 and 8 have been rejected as unclear "each earring" consists of more than one earring clip pursuant to "at least one earring clip."

In response, Applicant amended claims 1 and 8 to read "an earring clip."

Claims 7 and 9 have been rejected for referring to at least one food item/candy, where as the claims from which they depend refer to at least two food items/candies.

In response, Applicant amended each of claims 7 and 9 to refer to at least two food items/candies. Applicant believes no new matter has been added by this amendment.

The examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable material in claims. Applicant believes each issue raised in the office action has been addressed, therefore reconsideration of the remaining claims is requested at this time.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time and attention to this matter. Applicant believes no new matter has been added with any amendments that have been made. Applicant believes claims as now provided are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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